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Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 30
Jointly financed administrative activities

(Programme 26 of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007)**

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* A summary of the approved programme budget will subsequently be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/60/6/Add.1).

** *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/59/6/Rev.1).

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Overview

30.1 Provisions under the present section cover the requirements for the United Nations share in the costs of three administrative organizational units of the United Nations common system financed on an inter-agency basis. They are:

(a) The International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and its secretariat;

(b) The Joint Inspection Unit and its secretariat;

(c) The secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).

30.2 The full budgets of the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit are also presented to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval in accordance with the established arrangements. The comments of the Chief Executives Board on the budget proposals of the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2006-2007, which are required by its statute, will be submitted separately. The full budget of CEB is also presented for information purposes, while the United Nations share of it is presented for approval.

30.3 Unlike in the biennium 2004-2005, this section does not include the activities and the related resources for inter-organizational security measures. In line with General Assembly resolution 59/267 (XI) of 23 December 2004, those activities have been subsumed by the Department of Safety and Security and are now reflected under section 33, Safety and security.

30.4 The overall framework of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for the biennium 2006-2007 is presented by organizational unit in table 30.1.

Table 30.1 **Framework of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement by component**

Component	*Number of expected accomplishments*	*Number of indicators of achievement*
A. International Civil Service Commission	5	6
B. Joint Inspection Unit	3	3
C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	3	3
Total	**11**	**12**

30.5 The proposals for the regular budget appropriation made under this section reflect a net increase of $247,500, or 2.4 per cent, over the level approved for the biennium 2004-2005. The requirements were estimated on the basis of the full budgets of the activities, and the percentage share of the United Nations in those costs, determined by CEB on the basis of established methodology. The increase in the United Nations regular budget under this section is due to the delayed impact of new posts established in the biennium 2004-2005 under the full budget of the Board and the delayed application of revised percentages in calculating the United Nations share of costs. The percentage distribution of regular budget resources under this section is as shown in table 30.2.

Table 30.2 **Percentage distribution of regular budget resources by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component	*Regular budget*
A. International Civil Service Commission	52.9
B. Joint Inspection Unit	31.3
C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	15.8
Total	**100.0**

Table 30.3 **Summary of resource requirements by component (United Nations share of costs)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Regular budget

Component	*2002-2003 expenditure*	*2004-2005 appropriation*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2006-2007 estimate*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
A. International Civil Service Commission	4 150.0	5 637.6	24.1	0.4	5 661.7	341.5	6 003.2
B. Joint Inspection Unit	2 653.7	3 260.2	81.5	2.5	3 341.7	250.5	3 592.2
C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	1 150.8	1 547.4	141.9	9.2	1 689.3	107.5	1 796.8
Total	**7 954.5**	**10 445.2**	**247.5**	**2.4**	**10 692.7**	**699.5**	**11 392.2**

30.6 The estimated requirements under the full budgets of the activities programmed in this section are summarized in table 30.4. The post establishment in the context of the full budgets is summarized in table 30.5. Due to the inter-agency nature of these operations, all the posts budgeted in this section are outside the United Nations regular budget staffing table.

Table 30.4 **Summary of resource requirements by component (full budgets)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Jointly financed

Component	*2002-2003 expenditure*	*2004-2005 appropriation*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2006-2007 estimate*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
A. International Civil Service Commission	11 088.5	15 017.8	—	—	15 017.8	905.8	15 923.6
B. Joint Inspection Unit	9 056.3	10 574.9	—	—	10 574.9	792.8	11 367.7
C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	3 292.7	4 314.7	368.8	8.5	4 683.5	298.0	4 981.5
Total	**23 437.6**	**29 907.4**	**368.8**	**1.2**	**30 276.2**	**1 996.6**	**32 272.8**

Table 30.5 **Summary of post requirements by component (full budgets)**

Jointly financed

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*		*Extrabudgetary posts*		*Total*	
	2004-2005	*2006-2007*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
A. International Civil Service Commission	46	46	—	—	—	—	**46**	**46**
B. Joint Inspection Unit	20	20	—	—	—	—	**20**	**20**
C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	14	14	—	—	—	—	**14**	**14**

A. International Civil Service Commission

Full budget of the International Civil Service Commission (before recosting): $15,017,800

Regular budget resource requirements for United Nations share (before recosting): $5,661,700

30.7 By its resolution 3357 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974, the General Assembly established the International Civil Service Commission for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system. Under its statute, the Commission is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly. It performs its functions in respect of the United Nations and of those specialized agencies and other international organizations that participate in the United Nations common system. In the exercise of its functions, the Commission is guided by the principle set out in the agreements between the United Nations and the other organizations, aiming at the development of a single unified international civil service through the application of common personnel standards, methods and arrangements. The Commission is further mandated through General Assembly resolutions 51/216 of 18 December 1996 and 52/216 of 22 December 1997 to play a lead role in the development of innovative approaches in the field of human resources management as part of the overall reform currently taking place in the organizations of the common system.

30.8 Under article 21, paragraph 2, of the statute of ICSC, a provision is made for the inclusion of the ICSC budget in the regular budget of the United Nations. The budget estimates for the Commission are submitted by the Secretary-General after consultation with CEB on the basis of proposals made by the Commission.

30.9 In accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/285 of 20 December 2002, the Commission was reviewed by the Panel on the Strengthening of the International Civil Service (A/59/153). The report of the Panel, its recommendations and the comments of CEB thereon remain under consideration by the General Assembly.

30.10 The overall broad objectives of the Commission's programme of work are: (a) to develop further and to strengthen a common system of salaries, allowances and benefits under the Noblemaire and Flemming principles; (b) to equalize the purchasing power of salaries worldwide through post adjustment classifications; (c) to develop and maintain equitable job evaluation and other human resources management systems; (d) to provide guidance and advice on their administration; and (e) to provide substantive support to Member States and common system organizations (including staff) in the reform and maintenance of a coherent and effective human resources management system more closely aligned with the achievement of organizational goals and objectives.

30.11 The Chairman of the Commission is responsible for directing its work. The Executive Secretary, as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Commission, is responsible for the preparation of the budget estimates, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and for submitting them to the Secretary-General.

Programme of work of the International Civil Service Commission

30.12 It is expected that ICSC will hold two sessions with a total duration of six weeks in 2006 and two sessions with a total duration of four to five weeks in 2007. Of the two sessions held each year, one will take place in New York and the other will be held elsewhere, in principle, at the headquarters of one of the participating organizations of the United Nations common system. The Commission may also decide to establish working groups on selected issues. Those working groups would be composed of members of the Commission and/or its secretariat, as well as representatives of the member organizations and staff. It is expected that during the biennium 2006-2007, four such working groups will be established and that each of the groups will meet for approximately two weeks. Furthermore, it is anticipated that representatives of the Commission will participate in the meetings (1 meeting per year) of the technical working groups established by the governing bodies of the participating organizations.

30.13 The Commission's Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions will hold one session of one-week duration in each year of the biennium. As is the case with members of ICSC, the members of the Advisory Committee are entitled to travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with the rules established by the General Assembly for members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations serving in their individual capacity.

30.14 The structure of the secretariat of the Commission remains unchanged. It includes the Office of the Executive Secretary, the Cost-of-Living Division, the Personnel Policies Division and the Salaries and Allowances Division.

30.15 The main activities to be undertaken by the Cost-of-Living Division in the biennium 2006-2007 include: (a) carrying out and processing the 2005 round of cost-of-living surveys at non-headquarters duty stations; (b) updating on a monthly basis post adjustment indices for establishment of post adjustment classifications for all duty stations; (c) publishing of post adjustment reports on a monthly basis; (d) management of the rental subsidy scheme, which is linked to the post adjustment system; (e) methodological research on post adjustment required by a number of events, including the review of the pay and benefits system; (f) carrying out joint cost-of-living methodology development projects with statistical agencies of the European Commission and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to improve the quality of cost-of-living measurements; and (g) providing secretariat services to the Advisory Committee.

30.16 In the biennium 2006-2007, the main activities to be undertaken by the Personnel Policies Division include new studies emanating from the integrated framework for human resources management approved by the General Assembly in 2000 and ongoing operational and client-oriented activities. These are: (a) a review of the pay and benefits system as it relates to human resources management issues; (b) a review of the question of the hardship and mobility scheme; (c) studies on various aspects of human resources management, such as career development, work/life issues and reform of the job evaluation system for the General Service category; (d) monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of ICSC; (e) monitoring and reporting on the improvement of the status of women in the common system; (f) classification of duty stations according to conditions of life and work (hardship scheme), including recommendations for hazard pay; (g) grade equivalency studies; and (h) technical advice and coordination on job classification matters.

30.17 The main activities to be undertaken by the Salaries and Allowances Division in the biennium 2006-2007 include: (a) conduct of a pay and benefits review and related pilot studies in volunteer organizations; (b) studies on the application of the Noblemaire principle and annual monitoring of remuneration levels of the comparator (United States federal civil service); (c) reviews of methodologies for determining various allowances and benefits, such as the education grant and dependency allowances; (d) review of benefits and allowances and staff assessment rates; (e) conduct of General Service salary surveys at headquarters duty stations; (f) monthly update of daily subsistence allowance rates; and (g) conduct of comprehensive review of pensionable remuneration.

Table 30.6 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To coordinate and regulate the conditions of service of the United Nations common system as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 3357 (XXIX).

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved quality of substantive service to the Commission	(a) (i) Positive assessment by the Commission of the policy recommendations submitted on the human resources management systems *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: positive assessment Estimate 2004-2005: positive assessment Target 2006-2007: positive assessment (ii) Percentage of recommendations adopted by the Commission *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent
(b) Effective, flexible and simplified payment and benefits systems under the Noblemaire and Flemming principles that meet the requirements of organizations	(b) Percentage of recommendations on the pay and benefits systems adopted by the Commission *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent

(c) Improved methodology for cost-of-living measurements	(c) High percentage of proposals for cost-of-living measures approved by the Commission *Performance measures:* 2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent
(d) Up-to-date post adjustment classifications and rental subsidy thresholds and mobility/ hardship classification for the United Nations common system	(d) Reduction in time between the request for surveys and the carrying out of cost-of-living surveys and the number of duty stations reviewed for hardship and mobility classification *Performance measures*: (i) Cost-of-living surveys 2002-2003: processed within 4 months Estimate 2004-2005: processed within 3 and a half months Target 2006-2007: processed within 3 months (ii) Completion rate of all requests for hardship classification of field duty stations (250 per year) 2002-2003: 100 per cent within 4-8 weeks Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent within 4-8 weeks Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent within 4-8 weeks
(e) Up-to-date daily subsistence allowance rate system	(e) Reduction in the time required to implement changes in the subsistence allowance rate system *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 2 weeks Estimate 2004-2005: 1 and a half weeks Target 2006-2007: 1 week

External factors

30.18 The component is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that organizations of the United Nations common system will provide timely information as requested by the Commission and fully implement its decisions and recommendations.

Outputs

30.19 During the biennium 2006-2007, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies: approximately 30 formal meetings and informal consultations of the Fifth Committee on issues of conditions of service of the United Nations common system; approximately 100 meetings of the Commission; approximately 24 meetings of the Advisory Committee; approximately 40 meetings of working groups of the Commission on specific issues of conditions of service;

(b) Parliamentary documentation:

(i) Reports and research papers on specific issues raised by Member States, organizations and staff representatives submitted to the Commission and other documentation submitted to the Advisory Committee and working groups of the Commission under their programme of work (90);

(ii) Substantive assistance to the Commission and the Advisory Committee in preparation of their respective reports (18);

(c) Other substantive activities:

(i) Responses on behalf of the Commission on cases of specific issues before the Administrative Tribunals (12);

(ii) Monitoring by the Commission of a new master standard and related subsystems for application in the common system; workshops on the operation of the post adjustment system (2); training material/training courses on job classification and mobility and hardship (8);

(iii) Technical material (hard copy and electronic issuances): cost-of-living survey reports and monthly updated post adjustment indices with respect to exchange rate movement, inflation and rental subsidy thresholds (24 circulars); revised Classification Manual (1); manuals on the United Nations salary system (2); post adjustment systems (1); daily subsistence allowance circulars (24); mobility hardship schemes (4).

Table 30.7 **Resource requirements: total requirements for the International Civil Service Commission (full budget)**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Jointly financed				
Post	9 870.7	9 870.7	46	46
Non-post	5 147.1	5 147.1	—	—
Total	**15 017.8**	**15 017.8**	**46**	**46**

30.20 The estimated requirements in the amount of $15,017,800 would provide for the continuation of 46 posts (1 D-2, 3 D-1, 3 P-5, 8 P-4, 4 P-3, 3 P-2, and 24 General Service (2 Principal level)) and related non-post operational requirements, including consultancy, travel, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies and equipment. There is no change in the overall level of resource requirements under the full budget of the Commission. However, an additional provision of $893,000 would be required under consultancy services to undertake the five-year cycle studies on new approaches in performance and broadbanding due in this biennium in accordance with resolution 52/216. These additional requirements would be offset by a reduction in the same amount under general operating expenses.

Table 30.8 **Resource requirements: United Nations share in the budget of the International Civil Service Commission**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Non-post	5 637.6	5 661.7	—	—
Total	**5 637.6**	**5 661.7**	—	—

30.21 The estimated requirements in the amount of $5,661,700, reflecting an increase of $24,100, relate to the United Nations share (currently 37.7 per cent) in the budget of ICSC for the biennium 2006-2007. The increase of $24,100 is the result of a delay in the application of the revised cost-sharing percentage to the full amount of the gross budget after recosting in the 2004-2005 biennium.

B. Joint Inspection Unit

Full budget of the Joint Inspection Unit (before recosting): $10,574,900

Regular budget resource requirements for United Nations share (before recosting): $3,341,700

30.22 The Joint Inspection Unit, created on an experimental basis in 1968, was established with effect from 1 January 1978 by the General Assembly in its resolution 31/192 of 22 December 1976, in which it also approved the Unit's statute. The Unit is the only system-wide independent external oversight body, and it is accountable to the General Assembly and the competent legislative organs of the specialized agencies and other international organizations within the United Nations system that accept its statute. The expenditures of the Unit are shared by its participating organizations, as agreed upon by them.

30.23 In accordance with article 20 of its statute, the budget of the Joint Inspection Unit is included in the regular budget of the United Nations. Its budget estimates are established by the Secretary-General after consultation with CEB on the basis of proposals made by the Unit. In its resolution 55/230 of 23 December 2000, the General Assembly reaffirmed article 20 of the Unit's statute, as well as paragraph 182 of its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, and requested the Secretary-General to submit the report of CEB on the budget proposals made by the Unit as required by its statute. The report will be submitted separately.

30.24 According to the statute, the Inspectors have the broadest powers of investigation in all matters bearing on the efficiency of services and the proper use of funds and provide an independent view through inspection and evaluation aimed at improving management and methods and at achieving

greater coordination among organizations. The Unit submits an annual report on its activities to the General Assembly and to the competent legislative organs of its other participating organizations.

30.25 In line with the directives of the legislative organs of its participating organizations, the Unit takes full advantage of its system-wide competence in undertaking comparative analysis of trends and problems faced by various organizations and proposing harmonized, practical and concrete solutions. It focuses its work on important priority items for the participating organizations, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations on precisely defined issues.

30.26 A comprehensive review of the reform of the Unit, including issues relating to its functions, responsibilities, mode of operation, working methods, selection of inspectors and operational arrangements, was undertaken by the General Assembly at its fifty-eight and fifty-ninth sessions. In its resolution 59/267 dated 23 December 2004, the General Assembly set guidelines for the functioning of the Unit aimed at increasing the effectiveness of its operations. The Unit's biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007 is based on the mandate set forth in the above-mentioned resolution.

30.27 The activities for which the Unit is responsible fall under component B of programme 26, Jointly financed activities, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007.

Table 30.9 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate the improvement of management, the efficiency of services and the proper use of funds among the participating organizations of the United Nations system.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improvement in the ability of intergovernmental organs to exert oversight regarding the activities of the participating organizations and to determine the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of their activities	(a) Number and percentage of recommendations presented to and endorsed by the legislative bodies of participating organizations *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 53 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 60 per cent Target 2006-2007: 70 per cent
(b) Improvements in the administrative and managerial practices of secretariats and greater compliance with their respective mandates, rules, regulations, policies and procedures	(b) Number and percentage of outstanding adopted recommendations implemented by the participating organizations *Performance measures*: 2002-2003:[a] Estimate 2004-2005:[a] Target 2006-2007: 65 per cent

(c) Increased coordination and information-sharing among participating organizations	(c) Number of best practices shared with participating organizations *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: Not applicable Estimate 2004-2005: 50 best practices Target 2006-2007: 50 best practices

[a] The monitoring and follow-up system developed by the Unit in recent years, and agreed upon by most participating organizations, should allow the Joint Inspection Unit to start calculating this percentage in earnest only as of the biennium 2006-2007.

External factors

30.28 The component is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that:

(a) All stakeholders play their role in ensuring the impact of the Unit on the cost-effectiveness of activities within the United Nations system;

(b) There will be no delays in submission by the secretariats of participating organizations of comments on the reports of the Unit and in the consideration and adoption by their legislative organs of specific resolutions/decisions on recommendations of the Unit.

Outputs

30.29 During the biennium 2006-2007, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings: approximately 30 formal meetings and informal consultations of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and approximately 15 meetings of legislative organs of other organizations of the United Nations system on issues contained in the reports of the Unit;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation: annual reports to the General Assembly; special reports to the General Assembly, as required;

(b) Other substantive activities:

(i) Consultations with secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system on issues under the work programme of the Unit (approximately 8 consultations);

(ii) Contribution to annual inter-agency meetings, such as the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation and Meeting of Representatives of Internal Audit Services; participation in and organization of inter-agency meetings on selected reports of the Unit (approximately 24 meetings);

(iii) Reports, notes and confidential letters to the Executive Heads under the annual programmes of work of the Unit (approximately 20 reports, notes and letters).

Table 30.10 **Resource requirements: total requirements for the Joint Inspection Unit (full budget)**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Jointly financed				
Post	9 752.7	9 752.7	20	20
Non-post	822.2	822.2	—	—
Total	**10 574.9**	**10 574.9**	**20**	**20**

30.30 The estimated requirements of $10,574,900, at the maintenance level, would provide for the continuation of 11 positions of Inspectors and 20 posts in the Unit secretariat, as well as for non-post requirements, including those for general temporary assistance, overtime, consultancy and contractual services, travel of Inspectors and staff, general operating expenses, supplies and materials and furniture and equipment.

Table 30.11 **Resource requirements: United Nations share in the budget of the Joint Inspection Unit**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Non-post	3 260.2	3 341.7	—	—
Total	**3 260.2**	**3 341.7**	—	—

30.31 Resource requirements in the amount of $3,341,700, reflecting an increase of $81,500, relate to the United Nations share in the budget of the Unit for the biennium 2006-2007, which is 31.6 per cent. The increase of $81,500 is attributable to a delay in the application of the revised cost-sharing percentage to the full amount of the gross budget after recosting in the 2004-2005 biennium.

C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Full budget of the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (before recosting): $4,683,500

Regular budget resource requirements for the United Nations share (before recosting): $1,689,300

30.32 The responsibility for the promotion of inter-agency coordination and cooperation within the organizations of the United Nations system is vested in the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, which, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321 of 24 October 2001, replaced the Administrative Committee on Coordination established in 1946 by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 13 (III). Two high-level committees assist the executive heads in performing their functions: the High-Level Committee on Programmes, whose central role is the development of concerted and effective responses by the United Nations system to emerging policy challenges and issues relating to international

cooperation and development; and the High-Level Committee on Management, whose mandate is to provide guidance on administrative and management issues that are of system-wide relevance and promote inter-agency cooperation and coordination on these matters. The CEB secretariat, which is co-located in New York and Geneva, provides substantive and administrative support to the Board and to the high-level committees.

30.33 Activities carried out with a view to supporting CEB in promoting inter-agency coordination and cooperation within the organizations of the United Nations system and the related resource requirements are reflected under the present section, which also presents the costs and results of the work associated with the Board and its subsidiary machinery in an integrated and transparent manner.

30.34 During the biennium 2006-2007, the main focus of CEB in programme matters will be on coordinated system-wide implementation of the outcomes of the first comprehensive review of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 55/2) and the associated high-level event in 2005 provided for in General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 17 May 2004. It will thus focus its work on accelerating progress in the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, and the continued strengthening of system-wide support for the sustainable development of Africa within the overall framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. On the management side, CEB will continue its emphasis on implementation of inter-agency agreements on the security and safety of United Nations system personnel and human resources management, capitalizing on investments in information and communication technologies and promoting best practices in the management and financial administration areas. These activities are all geared towards ensuring a more integrated and coordinated response of the United Nations system to the policy directives and mandates of Member States.

30.35 During the biennium 2006-2007, the High-Level Committee on Programmes will focus on developing concerted approaches by the system to the outcome of the 2005 high-level event, including through the elaboration of joint strategies to accelerate progress in meeting the goals of the Millennium Declaration. It will elaborate broad guidance to CEB for meeting the challenges stemming from the ongoing reform of the United Nations system in an integrated and coherent manner, bringing the full capacities and potential of the United Nations system to bear in areas of strategic importance related to peace and development. In particular, it will focus on developing integrated and systemic responses to both hard and soft threats to peace and security, including transnational organized crime; poverty, disease and environmental degradation; and the impact of migration and the protection of vulnerable populations displaced due to conflict and natural disasters. It will continue to monitor system-wide support for the development of Africa, particularly within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and strengthen collaboration with civil society organizations.

30.36 During the biennium 2006-2007, the High-Level Committee on Management will continue to place emphasis on human resources management and the reform of the common system by pursuing a range of specific studies. It will also continue to focus on promoting the implementation of inter-agency agreements on the security and safety of United Nations system personnel, United Nations system staff and their dependants living with HIV/AIDS and on contingency planning and emergency preparedness and greater commonality in health insurance arrangements. In the financial and budgetary areas, emphasis will continue to be placed, inter alia, on results-based budgeting, accounting standards, cash management and relationships between regular and voluntary funding, as well as on the development of best practices. In the area of information and

communication technology, the Committee will continue to focus on capitalizing on investments in that field. The Committee will continue to promote the development of initiatives to facilitate access to United Nations system information by Member States and the general public. Tools for knowledge-sharing and management will be further developed, and joint purchasing will be expanded through framework agreements and volume discounts.

30.37 In support of the tasks of CEB and its two high-level committees, the secretariat provides support, services and information to Member States and CEB member organizations on programme and operational policy issues of system-wide importance, as well as on activities and developments of inter-agency concern in the areas of human resources, information and communication technology, finance, budget and support services. It facilitates the consultative processes between the Secretary-General and members of CEB, particularly when new policy initiatives are contemplated or when comprehensive and complementary responses to major international developments are required. The secretariat follows up on CEB decisions, develops system-wide positions in policy, programme and operational areas and promotes knowledge-sharing within the system. It supports research to promote best practices and serves as a clearing house for ideas and information on developments of interest to the system with a view to avoiding duplication and ensuring synergy. It maintains, on behalf of the system, a number of agreements and other arrangements related to the conditions of service of staff of the common system and supports the governance mechanisms of the United Nations System Staff College, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/278 of 12 July 2001. Exchange of information throughout the system is enhanced through the maintenance of a series of databases and websites. The capacity of the CEB secretariat will continue to be augmented through the secondment of staff from member organizations.

Table 30.12 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To ensure effective mobilization of the full capacity of the United Nations system to implement intergovernmental decisions.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased collaboration and coordination among member organizations in response to decisions of intergovernmental bodies	(a) Number of joint or complementary programmes and projects with strategic impact, task-specific inter-agency networking, time-bound working groups and other facilitating initiatives and activities to strengthen system-wide follow-up to intergovernmental decisions *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 12 activities Estimate 2004-2005: 12 activities Target 2006-2007: 16 activities
(b) Enhanced coherence, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the United Nations system of organizations in the administration and management areas	(b) Number of coordinated system-wide responses to ICSC initiatives, staff management issues, financial and budgetary matters and oversight reports

	Performance measures:
	2002-2003: 12 responses
	Estimate 2004-2005: 14 responses
	Target 2006-2007: 16 responses
(c) Improving knowledge-sharing within the system as well as with Member States and more efficient utilization of information technologies within the United Nations system	(c) Number of applications and common platforms, as well as knowledge management networks in use and shared by programmes within the United Nations system and with Member States
	Performance measures:
	2002-2003: 9 platforms
	Estimate 2004-2005: 15 platforms
	Target 2006-2007: 17 platforms

External factors

30.38 The component is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that the member organizations and their governing bodies commit themselves and make timely contributions to the issues addressed by CEB.

Outputs

30.39 During the biennium 2006-2007, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the Fifth Committee on matters related to inter-agency affairs and the United Nations common system (on average 4 times per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation: CEB comments on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit; inter-agency statistical reports on human resources, financial and general administrative subjects (average of 4 times per year);

(ii) Economic and Social Council:

a. Substantive servicing of plenary meetings on matters related to inter-agency affairs (1 meeting per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation: CEB annual overview report; inter-agency inputs to reports on the follow-up to the Millennium Assembly (4);

(iii) Committee for Programme and Coordination:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: contribution to Committee meetings on matters related to inter-agency affairs (1 meeting per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation: CEB annual overview report (2);

(iv) International Civil Service Commission:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: contribution to the activities of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies as provided for in article 28 of the ICSC statute (annual meeting of Commission and 2 meetings of subsidiary bodies on average per year);

b. Parliamentary documentation: miscellaneous papers on common positions of the United Nations system relating to conditions of service in the common system (2 papers on average per year);

(v) United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund Standing Committee:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: contribution to the activities of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board Standing Committee (2);

b. Parliamentary documentation: miscellaneous papers on common United Nations system positions related to the Pension Fund (2);

(b) Other substantive activities:

(i) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings:

a. Substantive sessions of CEB (2 sessions per year);

b. Meetings of CEB focal points to finalize the summary of conclusions of CEB and to plan follow-up activities (2 sessions per year);

c. Meetings of the High-Level Committee on Management (2 sessions per year);

d. Meetings of the High-Level Committee on Programmes (2 sessions per year); intersessional meetings (2 sessions per year);

e. Meetings of inter-agency working groups and ad hoc inter-agency task arrangements established by the high-level committees in the programme (10 meetings per year) and management areas (10 meetings per year);

(ii) Documentation for inter-agency meetings: background and technical papers, summary of conclusions and reports for CEB and its two high-level committees (8);

(iii) Technical material:

a. Monthly system-wide promulgation of rates for freelance interpreters, translators and editors and promulgation of rates relating to hardship payments (24);

b. United Nations system Extranet; United Nations system search engine; Executive Information Network; CEB website; United Nations system locator; United Nations system chart; common system personnel database; mechanisms in support of spouse employment and dual careers; education grant database; directory of senior officials; inventory of inter-agency arrangements; annual common system personnel statistics; system-wide inventory of software and hardware; best practices of the United Nations system in human resources and the areas of information and communication technologies and finance and budget.

Table 30.13 **Total requirements for the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (full budget)**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Jointly financed				
Post	3 358.3	3 727.1	14	14
Non-post	956.4	956.4	—	—
Total	**4 314.7**	**4 683.5**	**14**	**14**

30.40 The estimated requirements in the amount of $4,683,500, reflecting an increase of $368,800, would provide for the continuation of 14 posts in the CEB secretariat (seven in New York and seven in Geneva) and its operational costs. The increase under posts is due to the delayed impact of four new posts approved for the 2004-2005 biennium. The non-post requirements would provide for general temporary assistance, consultants, overtime, official travel of staff, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies and materials and furniture and equipment for both CEB secretariat offices.

Table 30.14 **Resource requirements: United Nations share in the budget of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Non-post	1 547.4	1 689.3	—	—
Total	**1 547.4**	**1 689.3**	—	—

30.41 Resource requirements in the amount of $1,689,300, reflecting an increase of $141,900, relate to the United Nations share (36.07 per cent) in the costs of the secretariat of CEB. The increase of $141,900 in the United Nations share of costs reflects the combined effect of the delayed impact of four new posts approved for 2004-2005 under the full budget of the Board secretariat and a delay in the application of the revised cost-sharing percentage to the full amount of the gross budget after recosting in the 2004-2005 biennium.

Table 30.15 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies**

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/7)	
Joint Inspection Unit	
The Advisory Committee indicated that in future, the use of consultants and contractors by the Unit to provide additional expertise should be linked more closely to specific items, including studies determined well in advance, on the basis of the work programme as set out in the proposed programme budget (para. X.8).	Consultants are always contracted to provide specialized expertise in the preparation of specific notes or reports or for specific projects, such as training seminars. However, given that the work programme is determined on an annual basis, it is difficult to "determine studies well in advance" as suggested, or to specify in advance the exact needs of the Unit in terms of such specialized expertise.
The Advisory Committee enquired about but did not receive information on the average cost of preparing a report of the Joint Inspection Unit. Taking into account the need to ensure the most efficient and effective use of resources and bearing in mind the provisions of the statute of the Unit, the Committee was of the view that due consideration should be given to the cost and potential benefit of each report before a decision is taken to prepare it (para. X.10).	A new methodology for the selection of topics to be included in the Unit's programme of work was adopted in 2004. A validation checklist is used for each proposal that includes a review of what the originating source is seeking to achieve through the report (objective), a definition of the problem that the Unit might contribute to solving (assumption), and the type of efficiency savings, if any, that could be achieved through the report, as well as an analysis of the resources that would be needed to carry out the project.
The Advisory Committee encouraged the Unit to refine its results-based budget presentation in a way that would link reports, notes and letters to the attainment of its objectives and expected accomplishments. In presenting outputs, more emphasis should be given to this issue and less to the servicing of meetings (para. X.11).	The biennial programme plan of the Unit for the biennium 2006-2007, as approved by the General Assembly, is presented in the present document. The expected accomplishments will be refined in the context of the preparation of the next biennial programme plan. The progressive development of the follow-up system presently being put in place with participating organizations should allow the Unit to better measure, in the future, the impact of individual recommendations and therefore the contribution of the reports and notes to the expected accomplishments.
The Advisory Committee noted that the current inter-agency consultation process is fraught with unacceptable delays. The Committee expressed its opinion that a complete review should be undertaken with a view to replacing the current arrangements with procedures that would facilitate the prompt examination of reports of the Joint	In resolution 59/267, the General Assembly reaffirmed its request to the Executive Heads of the participating organizations that have not yet done so to take the steps necessary to facilitate the consideration of and action on the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, and invited the legislative organs concerned to consider the

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Inspection Unit by the relevant intergovernmental bodies of the participating organizations (para. X.13).	system and take action in this regard. While the Unit's bilateral discussions with organizations for the setting up of such systems have on the whole been successful, it is indeed true that the inter-agency consultation process continues to impede, in some cases, the timely consideration of reports. The Unit will continue its efforts towards improving timeliness of review of its reports by the intergovernmental bodies of the participating organizations.
United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	
With regard to the presentation of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, the Advisory Committee recommended that, in future, results of the coordination of work be indicated, including the number of meetings and what they are intended to achieve (para. X.16).	The biennial programme plan of CEB for the period 2006-2007, as approved by the General Assembly, is set out in the present document.
United Nations Board of Auditors (A/59/5 (vol. 1), chap. II)	
International Civil Service Commission	
The Board recommended that ICSC maximize the use of the Integrated Monitoring and Documentation and Information System in its programme performance monitoring system (para. 332).	Appropriate measures involving programme managers are being implemented.
The Board recommended that ICSC expedite the filling of vacant posts (para. 334).	Action has been taken by ICSC to fill every post which was vacant during the biennium 2002-2003, which prior to being filled yielded a 13 per cent vacancy rate as at 31 December 2003. Every effort continues to be made to fill vacancies on a timely basis as they arise. At present, there are new vacancies in ICSC that have arisen as a result of retirements, transfers, resignations, etc. Vacancies at the P-4 level and below are currently advertised or in the process of being advertised in Galaxy, and it is expected that all these vacancies will be filled by 31 December 2005. Vacancies at the P-5 level and above are currently advertised in line with the "Personnel arrangements for ICSC secretariat staff" established for ICSC on 9 January 1990. Every effort is being made to fill these vacancies by year's end as well.

Annex

Outputs produced in 2004-2005 not to be carried out in the biennium 2006-2007

A/58/6 paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination			
31.42 (b) (iii)	Participating agencies mobility system	1 (technical material)	No longer valid
Total		**1**	